

Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act – 2022.131
Released – 5 September 2022

Thank you for your email received 11 August 2022 requesting information regarding autism services.

Please find detailed below a summary of your request, together with our response.

Summary of your original request:

What service does child autism diagnosis and support fall under within this trust (i.e. CAMHS, Learning Disability, Neurodevelopmental, etc)?

In the Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust it is under the community paediatric service – this is for children in west Kent and DGS up to 11 years. Children/young people 11 years and over are seen by NELFT, a CAMHS provider.

What are the wait times for children receiving an assessment from point of referral?

Children are seen for an initial assessment on average within 18 – 20 weeks from receipt of the referral. If an autism assessment is required they are then added to our ASD waiting list and the longest wait from this point is 3.5 years

What is the time between children receiving a diagnosis and an EHCP in place, if applicable?

This is variable and not always linked, an EHCP may be issued before a diagnosis is confirmed. This is not data we hold; therefore we are not able to provide information for this part of your request.

What service are children passed to when reaching the age of 18?

Children are usually discharged from the Community Paediatric service following diagnosis of Autism unless they have other health needs that need monitoring. If they require help post 18 years they can be referred by a health/social care professional to the Kent & Medway adult autism & ADHD service.

Chair John Goulston Chief Executive Mairead McCormick

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